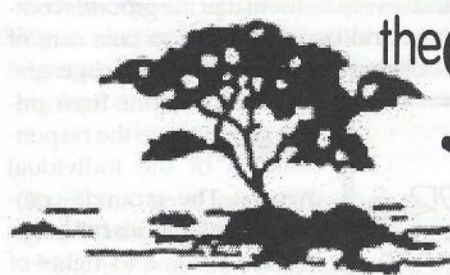


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the Surf Pines Breeze

Uneven Contest

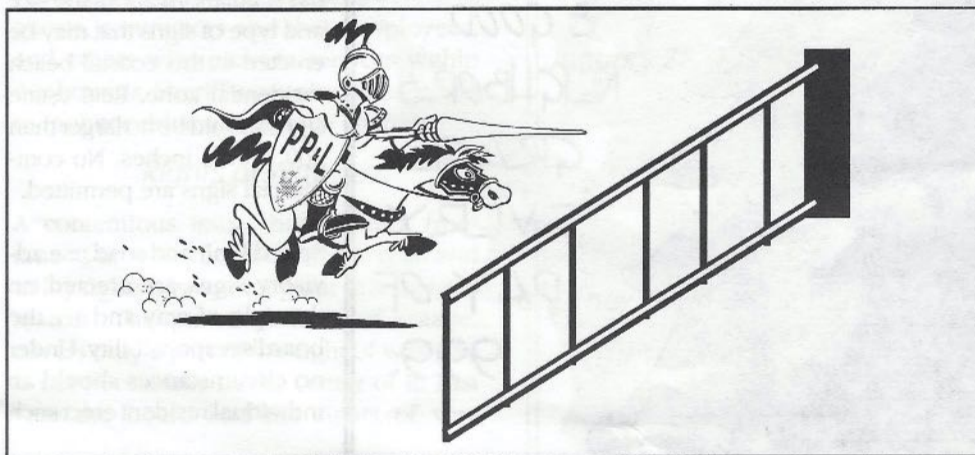
It was a dark and stormy night on December 1 when a power company truck took out the north entry gate. How did it happen? Accounts vary, of course. But there is no argument about the fact that the entire gate, housing and concrete foundation included, was upended and for a few days lay flattened along the roadside.

There had been a power outage on Lewis Road and three repair vehicles were observed to be on the scene coping with it.

Evidently the problem involved a line in Surf Pines. While entering, one of the trucks had a too-close encounter with the gate.

Latest word is that a new gate could be ready between Christmas and the new year, but time will tell. Before installation the weather must be dry enough to permit new concrete to set. That is in the lap of the gods.

The south gates, of course, will continue to function normally.



A reminder: gates are kept open in high winds to prevent accidents.

Board Policies

Questions keep arising regarding Board of Directors policies on a number of subjects. Below we summarize policies on recently raised topics. If you need information on other matters, either write to the board or call any officer.

Neighbors' Disputes

From time to time, individual home owners have disagreements with neighbors about improvements that impinge on their enjoyment of their own property. Sometimes a view may be blocked by a structure or a tree. The board, representing the whole association, has no role to play in adjudicating such disagreements. They are private matters between the parties. Everyone deplores the acrimony that sometimes results in threats of legal action, but the board's policy is to leave such disputes to be settled by those directly involved.

This policy does not mean that the board is indifferent to such acts of vandalism as cutting trees on other people's property. It should be clear that that is a violation of property rights. But it remains an individual problem, not a community affair, unless the
see Policies, page 2

Association News

Roads

Because the paving project had to be delayed until after water pipe improvement was complete, it was impossible to get the speed bumps painted before the rains started. Temporary markers will be installed as soon as the weather permits. Work on road shoulders, drainage of standing water and debris cleanup must also wait for better conditions.



Reward??

Anyone who noticed a sign in Ken's window offering a \$1000 reward may have wondered what prompted it. One November evening around 7:30 several residents along Manion Drive heard what sounded like gunshots. There was an unconfirmed report that someone was seen loading the body of a deer into a pickup truck. The sheriff was notified but no one was able to come until the next morning. No traces of bullets were found but there was blood on the road. Does anyone know what happened?

Several theories have been proposed but no answers have been forthcoming. Nor has anyone turned in the name of an illegal hunter and claimed the reward. If you've received an invitation from a neighbor to a dinner of venison, you may face a difficult decision.

Storm Cleanup

Grounds manager, Ken Weber, and volunteers Gene Bourquein and Tom

Wilcox cleared up after the November 25-6 storm. Wind gusts of over 100 miles an hour left plenty to do. Robert Stineman and his Young's River Trees assistants worked several days cutting and hauling trees and brush to the burn pile and they put in much unpaid time on Surf Pines' behalf. It took a full day to burn the accumulated debris.

In canvassing Surf Pines during the cleanup, Ken found that many people, in clearing up their own property, left limbs and brush in piles along the road, evidently expecting it to be removed. The board herewith reminds every resident that the grounds committee and burn pile exist to take care of association property. Storm damage and

removal of debris from private property are the responsibilities of the individual owners. The grounds committee has its hands full keeping the roads and rights of way clear.

As the storm season is now upon us, the committee needs more volunteers. If you are able and willing to help, please call 738-5986 and let Ken Weber know you're available.

Another plea: do not leave debris from your property on the right of way in hopes it will be collected. Good fairies went out of fashion long ago.

Policies, from page 1

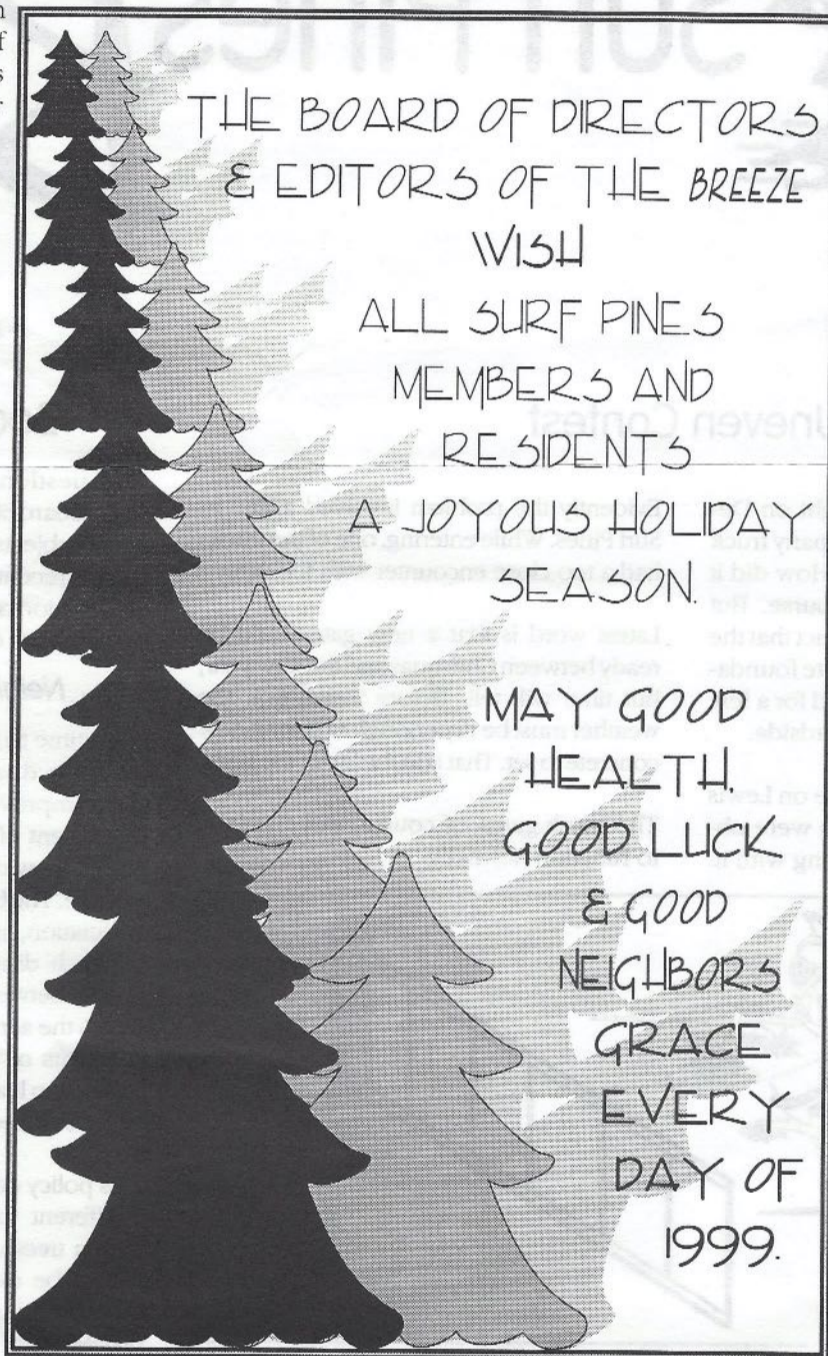
action occurs on association property.

Signs

The county zoning ordinance has regulations about the size and type of signs that may be erected in this coastal beach residential zone. Real estate signs should be no larger than 260 square inches. No commercial signs are permitted.

Speed limit and road use advisory signs are erected on the right of way and are the board's responsibility. Under no circumstances should an individual resident erect such

see Policies, page 3



a sign without prior approval by the board. By the same token, no individual should remove or destroy such a sign. That pertains as well to the beach path and lake access markers. If you have a problem with any of the association signs, contact the board.

Association policy also restricts display of political signs to private property, so if you wish to express a political preference during an election campaign, make sure your signs are on your own property and do not impinge on the right of way.

Speeding

Given the level of indifference to our speed limit that sheriff's deputies found when they patrolled our roads, (see September *Breeze*, p. 2) the board is formulating a new policy to deal with chronic road abusers. A copy of this new policy should accompany your dues and water board bills when you receive them next month. Read the text carefully; the board is committed to enforcing it and has taken legal advice to assure that they have the power to do so.

In brief, the policy is expected to provide:

1. Speeders cited by sheriff's deputies in Surf Pines will receive a notice from the security committee and may have their names published.
2. Second offenders will be advised that they may be subject to a speeding assessment after a third citation and their names will be published.
3. Third offenders will be assessed a speeding fee.

The speed limit applies not only to Surf Pines residents and family members but to guests, contractors and their employees, and others who provide services within our bounds. Sheriff's patrols will continue to monitor driving and issue citations.

Rights of Way

A contentious issue that surfaces from time to time is who controls the road and utility rights of way along our private road system. The paved surface, of course, covers only a part of the right of way and is not necessarily in the center of it. Last year the board had the rights of way

see Policies, page 4

Beach Camping

At its November 12 meeting in Eugene, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission considered a plea to close the beach between Fort Stevens and Gearhart to overnight camping. The commission heard the parks director's report on the incidence of camping and refuse on the beach that officers found while patrolling. Photographs and statistics backed up claims about conditions left behind by campers. To deal with the problem the staff recommended providing more money for more frequent sheriff's patrols and erecting portable toilet facilities during holiday weekends.

However, verbal testimony from residents along the Clatsop Plains beach, together with many petitions and letters from residents who could not attend the meeting, persuaded commissioners that in the interest of public health and safety the beach should be closed to overnight camping. This course would mark an important change of policy and in order to implement it the commission must hold public hearings.

Hearings are scheduled on January 28, 1999 in Warrenton (Community Hall, 7 to 9 p.m.) and on February 3 (Fish and Wildlife Office, 2501 SW First Avenue, Portland). Date and location of a March meeting are to be announced.

Surf Pines residents who attended the Eugene meeting include Kathleen Burtchaell, Brian and Leslie Cameron, Norma Keever and Jean Parker; they have been active in soliciting input from members and in circulating petitions. The local committee is grateful to those who wrote letters and hopes that residents will turn out in numbers for the Warrenton hearing. Everyone who wrote to the commission will receive written notice of the hearings. The Parks and Recreation Commission will convene again in Salem in April to weigh the results of the hearings. If they have heard no compelling arguments against closing the beach to camping, in all probability the policy will be changed.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

To each letter-writer and petition-signer

A beach camping ban is being considered, in large part, because you took time to speak your minds.

Remember, it's not a done deal.

A large attendance at public meetings will demonstrate our continued interest.

January 28, 1999 in Warrenton

February 3, 1999 in Portland

To storm cleanup workers

Ken Weber, Gene Bourquein and Tom Wilcox did us all a favor by cutting, toting, hauling and burning storm debris.

They could use some help during future storms. Won't you call and offer a little time and muscle?

Ken Weber, 738-5986



december 1998

Rural Address Changes

Time for effecting the address changes in rural areas is drawing nigh. According to plan, the new numbering system and street names are to take effect on January 1, 1999. Next week (possibly before this newsletter arrives) we should all receive official notification of our new addresses from Troy Kay Associates, the consultant hired by the county to devise and carry out the plan. The old number and street name will be honored by the post office for a year, but we are all advised to make the change as soon as possible.

When you receive the notice, if it does not match the information you have been given, let the Clatsop County Public Works Department know immediately so that they can resolve the problem. That de-

partment is the trouble-shooting agency.

If you are planning to build on undeveloped land and need to get a street address, contact Steve Thornton, the county surveyor in the Public Works Department. He is in charge of allocating new numbers.

During the first week or so of implementation, in the event of trouble, there will be a special hotline to call at the Astoria Police Department: 338-6779. Thereafter if you have problems, call Troy Kay at 338-3692.

Since all numbers and at least one street name will change, the board will issue a revised the directory as soon as possible. To expedite it, please include both old and new addresses with checks when paying first quarter dues.

Policies, from page 2

surveyed to ascertain exactly where the association has authority to act and where its authority ends.

Some home owners have improved their property almost to the edge of the pavement by planting grass, flowers or trees or erecting fences. In effect, such improvements treat the right of way as if it were the individual owner's unencumbered private property. Problems can arise if the association needs to remove the improvements to widen the road or repair utility lines. In that case, the right of way is just that: a right of the community interest to take precedence over an individual right. Recent work on upgrading water lines is an example.

When storms damage trees which then threaten power lines, it is necessary to trim or remove the trees. Sometimes the power company recommends removing trees before they cause trouble in order to minimize incidents of power loss. Home owners must recognize that the Surf Pines Association has not only authority but the obligation to maintain the rights of way in the best interests of all members.

Nonetheless, each storm season Surf Pines residents lose power, sometimes for hours, when falling tree limbs hit power lines. The board tries to inform part-time residents if obvious damage occurs on their property, but it is not always possible to do so.

Surf Pines Association Board of Directors

President	Dick Tevis	2252 Lucas Drive	738-3111
Vice President	John McGowan	2510 Malarkey Drive	861-3732
Secretary	Jerry Whalen	2509 Malarkey	861-4367
Ass't Secretary	Paulina Cockrum	11 Surf Pines Landing Drive	738-5789
Treasurer	Allen Cellars	2263 Lakeside Court	771-0628
At Large	George VonWeller	2332 Manion Drive	738-5982
At Large	Ralph Todd	2722 Sliverspot Lane	861-9771

the Surf Pines *Breeze*

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Members are invited to contribute articles or comments, letters to the editor, or anything fit to print. Don't hesitate - shoot the *Breeze*!

Layout: Lani Johnson

Warrenton, OR 97146

Hugh & Carol Seppa
Rt. 1 Box 601-B

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